

Appl. No.: 09/779,974  
Amdt. dated 01/28/2008  
Reply to Office action of 07/26/2007

**Amendments to the Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for providing information on packages of items, comprising:
  - receiving a request identifying an interest in a set of items;
  - identifying potential providers that are each capable of providing items that may satisfy the identified interest in response to receiving the request;
  - packaging multiple items from a plurality of different providers selected from the potential providers that have been identified, into a package of items in response to receiving the request and based upon preset financial arrangements ~~with or~~ between the respective potential providers, wherein said dynamic packaging is at least partially performed by a computing system; and
  - providing information reflecting the package of items in response to the request.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
  - receiving a purchase request to purchase the package; and
  - providing a confirmation in response to the purchase request confirming the purchase of the package.
3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the step of providing a confirmation in response to the purchase request confirming the purchase of the package, comprises:
  - notifying each of the potential providers associated with the package of items of the purchase request; and
  - receiving a commitment from each of the notified potential providers to provide an item as part of the package of items.
4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 3, further comprising:
  - compensating each of the notified potential providers for the item provided as part of the package of items.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, further comprising compensating each of the notified potential providers based on a commission structure, a net structure, or a combination of a commission structure and a net structure.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein identifying potential providers capable of providing items that may satisfy the identified interest, comprises:

searching a database of providers and items provided by each provider to identify the potential providers.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein dynamically packaging multiple items, each from a different provider selected from the potential providers, into a package of items, comprises:

considering any arrangements with the potential providers to select providers for the items of the package.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein dynamically packaging multiple items, each from a different provider selected from the potential providers, into a package of items, comprises:

combining items into the package such that a total price associated with the package is less than a sum of prices for all of the items in the package individually.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein dynamically packaging multiple items, each from a different provider selected from the potential providers, into a package of items, comprises:

combining items into the package such that when the package includes first and second items and the first item has a price of X when purchased alone and the second item has a price of Y when purchased alone a total price of the package is less than a sum of X and Y.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein dynamically packaging multiple items, each from a different provider selected from the potential providers, into a package of items, comprises:

combining items into the package such that when the package includes first and second items and the first item has a price of X when purchased alone and the second items has a price of Y when purchased alone a price of the first item as part of the package is less than X.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein dynamically packaging multiple items, each from a different provider selected from the potential providers, into a package of items, comprises:

combining items into the package such that when the package includes first and second items and the first item has a price of X when purchased alone and the second item has a price of Y when purchased alone a price of the first item as part of the package is less than X by a predetermined percentage.

12. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein dynamically packaging multiple items, each from a different provider selected from the potential providers, into a package of items, comprises:

combining items into the package such that when the package includes first and second items and the first item has a price of X when purchased alone and the second item has a price of Y when purchased alone a price of the first item as part of the package is less than X by a percentage set by an entity handling the packaging of the first and second items.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein dynamically packaging multiple items, each from a different provider selected from the potential providers, into a package of items, comprises:

combining items into the package such that when the package includes first and second items and the first item has a price of X when purchased alone and the second item has a price of Y when purchased alone a price of the first item as part of the package is less than X by a percentage set by an arrangement between providers of the first and second items.

14. (Currently Amended) A system for providing information on packages of items comprising:

a package request processor for receiving a request identifying an interest in a set of items; and

an item/provider database, responsive to queries from said package request processor in response to the request, for identifying potential providers that are each capable of providing items that may satisfy the identified interest, wherein said package request processor packages multiple items from a plurality of different providers that have been identified by said item/provider database as being capable of satisfying the identified interest into a package of items based upon preset financial arrangements ~~with or~~ between the respective potential providers.

15. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 21 wherein said compensation processor notifies the at least one selling agent of the compensation determined based upon the package of items without notifying a potential customer.

16. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 21 wherein said compensation processor also determines compensation for at least one provider.

17. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 14 wherein said package request processor generates the package of items based at least partially upon agreements with the potential providers.

18. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 14 further comprising a booking engine for submitting a purchase request to said item/provider database in response to a purchase request from a potential customer, and for providing a return confirmation to the potential customer in response to a provider confirmation provided by said item/provider database.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising determining

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compensation to at least one selling agent based upon the package of items.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, further comprising compensating one or more selling agents based on a commission structure, a net structure, or a combination of a commission structure and a net structure.

21. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 14, further comprising a compensation processor for receiving the package of items generated by said package request processor and for determining compensation for at least one selling agent based on the package of items, said compensation processor also providing information regarding the package of items.